

NOV 15 1966

Faculty Demands U. of Penn. End Germ War Plan

Special to THE WORKER

PHILADELPHIA — Faculty members at the University of Pennsylvania demanded last week that the school's \$485,000 Air Force contract on germ warfare — known as Project Spicerack — be dropped.

The demand was made by the steering committee of the Faculty Senate, composed of 1100 fully affiliated members of the faculty.

Dr. Julius Wishner, psychology professor and chairman of the steering committee told The Worker that the steering committee acted after Dr. Gaylord P. Harwell, University president, had asked it to investigate and make a recommendation to him about the project.

Harwell announced last week, following the steering committee's recommendation, that the school was attempting to farm out the contract. He said he was trying to transfer the project work to another institution.

Many institutions, he said, have been approached. He mentioned particularly the University City Science Center, reportedly a subsidiary of the University. The University is a major stockholder in the Center, and many of the Center's employees are also employed by the University.

At the same meeting at which the recommendation was announced, the Faculty Senate voted, 209 to 131, to establish a committee to review all contracts now held by the University, to determine if they violate the school's secrecy policy. The policy states that results of research done at the University must be "freely publishable".

It was established a year ago following protests by the Philadelphia Committee To End the War in Vietnam against the campus Institute For Cooperative Research. The ICR conducts research on biological and chemical agents in warfare.

The End the War Committee noted in a letter to Harwell in October, 1965, that the research was intended for use against civilians in Vietnam for the purpose of "poisoning both the people and their staple foods."

As long as the ICR remains on the University of Pennsylvania campus the University is culpable in the murderous uses to which the results of this research will be put."

Harwell said last Friday that opposition to the contract had caused "a great deal of emotional disturbance in the faculty which impairs their effectiveness," and has insisted that the research concerned only "defensive aspects" of germ warfare.

But Dr. Knut Krieger, head of Airforce Project Spicerack as well as the University's Army Project Summit, has admitted that research includes the spreading of rice famine, and the aerial dispersal of influenza, anthrax, and arsenic and cyanide compounds.

Krieger, as reported in the October 30th Worker, is a participant in a current attempt to recruit civilian scientists for

a germ warfare project at Rutgers University.

His name, along with that of other Pentagon scientists, appeared on a Rutgers University letter requesting written research proposals from the civilian scientists, to be submitted no later than Nov. 21. The organization sponsoring the project was not identified in the letter, which alluded only to "the research program that we discussed with you recently."

Krieger has been identified in "American Men of Science" as interested in "chemical and biological warfare."

Dr. Walter Braun, professor of microbiology at Rutgers and a signer of the letter, has denied that the research is for the purpose of germ warfare. However, as The Worker pointed out, the fact that the work is financed by the Army and the Air Force indicates that "the long range emphasis is hardly a humanitarian one."

A spokesman for the Faculty Senate steering committee said that the group has not yet discussed action on Project Summit, an Army contract valued at \$360,000.

Ask UN Condemn Germ, Gas War

THE HUNGARIAN delegation to the UN introduced a resolution to the General Assembly last week condemning the use of chemical and bacteriological weapons. The resolution asked that use of such weapons be declared an international crime, and that the Assembly demand a strict observance by all states of the ban on these weapons, in accordance with the Geneva Protocol of June 17, 1925.

The Hungarian delegation charged that the U.S. has made extensive use of chemical and bacteriological weapons in Vietnam.